

Maple Grove Citizens Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

May 13, 2015

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| Call to Order | The meeting was called to order by CAC Member Bob Joiner at 7:02 p.m. | | |
| Members Present | Leslie Bender Steven Maas Kevin Rebman | Stephen Gill Joan Masberg Don Skoglund | Bob Joiner Joe Piket |
| Members Absent | John Beacham, Lorraine Gresser, Harry Kennedy, Tim Klear | | |
| Others Present | Councilmember Phil Leith, City Administrator Al Madsen, Community Development Director Dick Edwards, CAC City Staff Liaison Mike Opatz, Parks and Recreation Program Specialist Katie Lallier, and two representatives from the Osseo Football Association: John Plumhoff and Kevin Dotzenrod. | | |
| Minutes | The minutes for the March 11, 2015 meeting were approved. CAC members were encouraged to review the April 8, 2015 meeting summary. | | |
| Area Reports | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elm Road closure / enforcement• Appaloosa Woods road reconstruction• Old Shell Station on County Road 81 (graffiti/skateboarding)• Condition of County Road 81• Lighting of tunnel/trail under Weaver Lake Road, near Central Park area | | |
| Update on City Development | <p>Al Madsen and Dick Edwards reviewed various facets of Maple Grove development. It was stated that housing and commercial development are stable. The City is not seeing large residential projects at this time, and recent developments have been fairly small (10-30 units).</p> <p>A map was distributed showing several current/upcoming projects, and they were reviewed as follows:</p> <p>Doran Companies / Elm Creek Boulevard & Hemlock Lane: Emphasis will be on residential, particularly high density, as well as office.</p> <p>Discussion ensued about the changes in housing demand. The senior population is growing, and senior development is strong. Millennials are learning from past mistakes, waiting to buy a house. Want to live where they shop, bike, recreate, and catch bus/train.</p> | | |

The question was asked about a project underway on Upland Lane, which is work underway on Montessori school.

Central Park: August projected opening for the following—pavilion, garden, fountains, playground, ice trail. City staff is working with Beyond The Yellow Ribbon representatives on Veterans memorial. Possible tour of Central Park for CAC this summer.

It was stated the tunnel under Weaver Lake Road is nice to access area without having to cross a busy road. Tunnel is in the area of High Grove development. However, concerns were expressed about low lighting/safety.

Taco Johns: The former Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant will be developed into a Taco Johns. The space has just been acquired so no timeframe yet. This space has been vacant for years. The question was raised about the drums in the parking lot of the Start Bright dry cleaners at the corner in that area.

Segal property: Piece of property in Maple Grove but only accessible via Dayton. Potential for 80 single-family unit development that will have Dayton utilities but an agreement will be made for Maple Grove Police, Fire, and snowplow services.

Markets at Rush Creek: This project has been discussed for several years and will include mixed use development—grocery, gas, coffee with smaller retail. Work to start mid to late summer. First phase will be residential and then add commercial element.

Children's Learning Adventure: This is the former Alleygator's bowling alley. Plans call for a unique daycare center, with a theme along the lines of a science museum. It will also be available for drop-in care.

Miscellaneous:

- Neimeyer trailer site on County Road 101 will be developed into residential units.
- Update on Comprehensive Land Use plan due by end of 2018. Maple Grove is over 85% development. The City will take input later in year.
- West of the Walgreen's along County Road 30—about 12 buildings to include high density residential, retail, medical, office.
- Former Rainbow Foods – Hobby Lobby taking about 85% of that space.
- 610 progress on track. Work/funding still needed on surrounding area, but 610 will connect with I-94 with this next phase.

- Statement was made that Met. Council requires the City to provide the opportunity to develop, 1,100 affordable housing units.
- Light rail is not coming to Maple Grove.
- With 610 progress the City will probably see development interest along that corridor in 2016.
- Opus has an interest in developing nine acres for multi-tenant industrial along Weaver Lake Road. In that same area is the former five-acre dump site, and the City needs to decide what do with that. Clean up cost is in the millions. One possible idea is a solar array. The site does not need to be cleaned up completely for industrial use.
- Vacancy rates were briefly reviewed: industrial vacancy at 5%; retail less than 10%; office has a higher rate as it is a tough market.
- Omni Brewing will be located along Deerwood Lane near Maple Grove Tavern.
- Peace Officers Memorial Day is Friday, May 15, and flags will be at half-staff.
- CAC expressed their appreciation for Al's service and support over the years.

Al Madsen and Dick Edwards left the meeting.

**Presentation by
Osseo Football
Association**

John Plumhoff and Kevin Dotzenrod were in attendance as representatives of the Osseo Football Association (OFA). A handout was provided that include a variety of information about their organization.

The OFA has was part of the Osseo Maple Grove Football Association, but about two years ago Maple Grove parents/coaches broke off and started the Maple Grove Youth Football Association.

The Osseo Football Association primarily works with those kids who will eventually go to Osseo Senior High School. They stated they try to be inclusive and are a non-profit looking to help as many kids play football. They provided an overview of fees and stated they offer a discount for additional family members. They also offer a free elementary school football clinic. In addition, they receive support from the Osseo booster club.

They said they primarily use fields at Fernbrook Elementary and Gleason Park as well as the Osseo Senior High field for practice. They align teams with neighborhood schools.

The majority of OFA board members are long-time ones which provides for continuity.

They stated they open early for registration and mentioned the items that are included in the fee. They want to make playing football accessible and affordable.

When asked about the split off from the Maple Grove group and creation of the Maple Grove Youth Football Association, the statement was made that some Maple Grove parents wanted their kids associated with Maple Grove High School and for MGYFA to be a feeder program. When the two groups were together there were about 1,200 to 1,500 students. Currently OFA has about 240.

When asked if OFA has a target number of kids they are trying to serve, they said they want to serve every kid who wants to play football which also includes some from Brooklyn Park and Brooklyn Center, anyone who may eventually be going to Osseo Senior High. They don't really turn anyone down.

OFA emphasized that they play full contact 11-man football, which can be a draw, rather than a 9-man program. Brief discussion ensued about the details of playing 11 man.

The question was asked if the City could do anything to help their organization. They stated they appreciate the use of the Gleason fields especially since it is lit and has scoreboards, and the City is great at maintaining. They stated they are wanting to find a good location that is more convenient to parents since some come from Osseo, Brooklyn Park, and Brooklyn Center. They stated that Maple Grove Junior High would be more convenient.

The question was asked if they have enough field space to which they answered yes. They also are aware of where other teams practice/play so they know where space is available. Mention was made that the junior high teams play on the Osseo stadium field.

OFA representatives stated they have a gentlemen's agreement with Brooklyn Park not to openly recruit as Brooklyn Park has its own association, but they do try to reach out to players who will eventually attend Osseo Senior High School.

Discussion took place on Maple Grove Youth Football Association's use of the Maple Grove Junior High fields. The question was asked if those fields could be shared. Katie Lallier explained it would be possible. She stated those fields had not been used in the past, and that MGYFA had made a request to use the Junior High fields.

The statement was made that this presentation/discussion is an education for the Citizens Advisory Committee.

The OFA representatives were asked if they had experienced any parking issues at Gleason Fields. They said parking was not a problem.

OFA was asked to explain the background checks and training for coaches. They referenced the handout provided and talked briefly about the NCSI background checks they use (also used by other organizations) as well as the concussion awareness certification and USA football coaching certification required for head coaches.

They stated that coaches and parents sign a pledge for good sportsmanship. They also said the coaches address such matters in the pre-season parent meeting. The question was asked if there is an enforcement mechanism for parental conduct. OFA representatives stated the league has standards, but that parents don't sign anything.

Discussion took place on playing time. For grades 2-6 players play 50% of the time. For grades 7-8 there is no guarantee for playing time; kids earn their time. But all kids play to some degree, and they don't know any coach that wouldn't play a team member.

OFA reps stated the Osseo High School coach is very positive and spends a lot of time with the OFA coaches. They also said that parent comments at the end of the season are generally positive. The association also gets feedback throughout the season. The coaches relate well to the kids and spend lots of time together, so they get feedback from the kids throughout the season as well.

OFA stated they try to keep the team sizes around 18 to 20. They would rather have smaller teams and provided the example that they would rather have two teams of 14 rather than 28 students on one team. Since the teams are set up by location, there is a core group so they don't see a whole lot of changes to teams.

CAC asked about future growth—are there any constraints and where would they like to see the organization. OFA reps stated they work to keep kids from the same schools playing together. They would like to get more kids that will end up at the Osseo schools. They stated the current makeup of the kids is about 50% are Maple Grove residents and the balance is Osseo, Brooklyn Park, etc.

OFA stated the biggest challenge is more lighted fields with scoreboards and to secure fields that are closer to the area of the OFA players. The statement was made that Gleason fields is the only field with a scoreboard. The statement was made that the City is a bit behind in having lighted facilities, concessions and restrooms. OFA stated they hold their camps/clinics at the Senior High field.

OFA stated their organization is all volunteer, and everyone's work is

appreciated. They recruit parents to be on the board, and a moms club was recently organized. They would like to get more grade 2-3 parents involved. They also stated they are one of the sports that has a shorter season running from mid-August through October versus hockey or baseball.

The Citizens Advisory Committee thanked the Osseo Football Association for all they do with the kids and appreciate them coming to the meeting and providing an update. The OFA representatives left the meeting.

Discussion ensued amongst the CAC on similar themes that may come from these meetings with the sports associations such as sharing playing fields, facilities, etc.

The suggestion was made that CAC should request a presentation from Parks and Recreation.

The question was asked if a lot of the facilities have playgrounds and amenities. The statement was made that if they are on school property, then they do.

The Maple Grove Lacrosse group will make a presentation to the CAC at its July 8th meeting. There is also a Brooklyn Park/Osseo lacrosse group but not sure of size.

The June 10th CAC meeting will be a presentation from the baseball association; OMGBA (basketball) at the August 13th meeting. The Maple Grove Youth Football Association has not responded to CAC's invitation to present. The Osseo Maple Grove Hockey Association has stopped responding.

The statement was made that, if more teams split off (similar to what occurred with football) it should be recognized that both teams will still have Maple Grove residents participating and to make sure that field and facility usage is equitable.

The comment was made that the Osseo Maple Grove Football Association split was not good, and that there might have even been lawyers involved as finances had to be split.

While minutes of the meetings are taken, CAC members were encouraged to take notes on the presentations.

Other Business / Updates

CAC could possibly take a tour of Central Park for the September 2015 meeting as the June, July and August meetings involve the athletic association presentations or the group could wait until 2016 for a tour.

The suggestion was made for the August 13th CAC meeting with the

OMGBA to take place at the community gymnasium at Maple Grove Junior High.

Bob Joiner stated that he will not be at the June CAC meeting, and the group should select someone to lead the meeting. **Motion made for CAC member Don Skoglund to lead the June 10th meeting. Motion seconded.**

The question was asked about a marijuana dispensary in Maple Grove, but it was stated that such a facility was going to be located in Eden Prairie.

Discussion took place on adding new CAC members. Councilmember Leith stated that he has been approached by a few people who are interested.

Mention was made that at times there has not been a quorum. Members were asked to make every effort to attend meetings as well as to stay for the entire meeting.

Motion made to add up to four new members if appropriate approval received. Motion seconded. Mike Opatz stated that he will run the recruitment process by Al Madsen.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Morris
Minute Secretary